

CLAIMS

5 1. Use of the Annexin V protein or an N-terminal fragment of Annexin V, optionally in the form of a salt, in the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition to prevent atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture.

10 2. The use according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises an effective amount of the Annexin V protein or N-terminal fragment of Annexin V, optionally in combination with a carrier and additives.

15 3. The use according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the effective amount of the Annexin V in the pharmaceutical composition is determined from a diagnostic status analysis of the Annexin V-endothelium binding.

20 4. A method of treating a subject at risk of atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture, comprising administering to said subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of Annexin V or N-terminal fragment of Annexin V or its corresponding salt.

25 5. A method according to claim 4 where the subject at risk is a systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patient.

25 *Use of a*

6. ~~A~~ purified subfraction of pooled immunoglobulins with the capacity to inhibit antibodies binding to Annexin V, *or a*

30 7. ~~A~~ purified subfraction of pooled immunoglobulins with the capacity to promote binding of Annexin V to endothelium << >>

8. Use of ~~the purified subfraction according to claim 6 or 7 or use of~~ a commercially available pooled immunoglobulin preparation << in the

7. Use of a commercially available pooled immunoglobulin preparation in the manufacturing of a medicament to prevent atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture.
- 5 8. A method of treating a subject at risk of atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture, comprising administering to said subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of pooled immunoglobulins or a purified subfraction of pooled immunoglobulins.
- 10 9. A method according to claim 8, or a use according to claim 6 of claim 7, where the subject at risk is a systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patient.
- 15 10. A use or method according to any one of the preceding claims for preventing atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture in a human.
11. A use or method according to any one of the preceding claims for preventing atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture in a patient with vulnerable plaques.